

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
12 February 2004 (12.02.2004)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2004/014013 A1

(51) International Patent Classification⁷: H04L 1/06, 27/26, 1/00, 1/08, H04B 7/005

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(21) International Application Number: PCT/JP2003/008601

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(22) International Filing Date: 7 July 2003 (07.07.2003)

(81) Designated State (national): JP.

(25) Filing Language: English

(84) Designated States (regional): European patent (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR).

(26) Publication Language: English

Published:

— with international search report

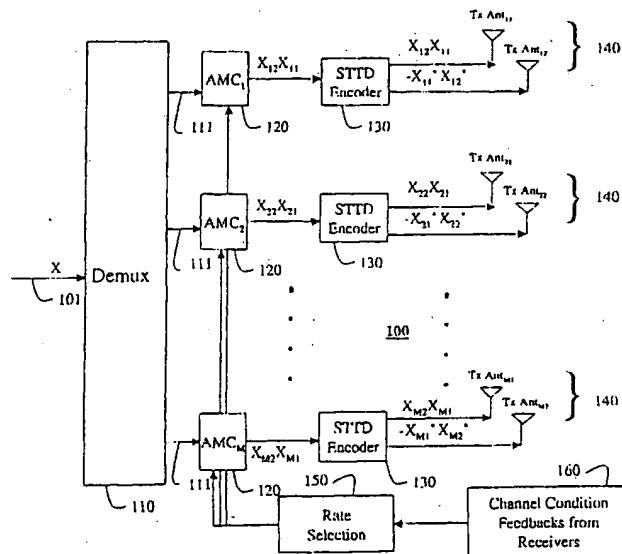
(30) Priority Data: 10/209,306 31 July 2002 (31.07.2002) US

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

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(54) Title: METHOD, TRANSMITTER AND SYSTEM FOR TRANSMITTING A STREAM OF DATA SYMBOLS IN A MULTIPLE-INPUT/MULTIPLE-OUTPUT WIRELESS COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM INCLUDING M PAIRS OF TRANSMITTING ANTENNAS



(57) Abstract: A method and system transmits a stream of data symbols in a multiple-input/multiple-output wireless communications system that includes M pairs of transmitting antennas. The stream of data symbols are demultiplexed into M sub-streams and adaptively modulated and coded to a maximum data rate while achieving a predetermined performance on an associated channel used to transmit the sub-stream. Space-time transmit diversity encoding is applied to each coded sub-stream to generate two output streams, one output stream for each antenna.

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DESCRIPTION

Method, Transmitter and System for transmitting a stream of data symbols in a multiple-input/multiple-output wireless communications system 5 including M pairs of transmitting antennas

Technical Field

The invention relates generally to wireless communications, and more
10 particularly to multiple input/multiple output wireless communications systems
with variable rate encoding.

Background Art

15 In a wireless communication system, such as 3rd generation (3G) wireless code-division multiple access (CDMA) system, it is desired to concurrently support multiple services and multiple data rates for multiple users in a fixed bandwidth channel. One scheme uses adaptive modulation and coding (AMC) to modulate and encode user data symbols before transmission.

20 In order to increase the capacity of a wireless communication system in fading channel environments, transmit diversity is widely adopted. In 3G systems, an open loop solution uses two antennas for transmission and a single antenna for reception. In such a system, every two symbols of the transmitted data is further
25 encoded by a space-time transmit diversity (STTD) encoder to generate four encoded symbols, two symbols for each antenna. Each antenna transmits different symbol streams through the channel to reach diversity gains.

To support real-time multimedia services in a fixed channel bandwidth, multiple input/multiple output (MIMO) systems have been developed for high data rate transmissions in wireless communication systems, such as high speed downlink packet access (HSDPA) in WCDMA systems. In a MIMO system, 5 multiple antennas are used by the transmitter and the receiver to increase the capacity of the system.

In general, the system capacity is improved as the dimension of the diversity, i.e., number of the antennas, increases. For very high speed transmission, a large 10 number of antennas might be necessary to reach the target performances. One solution to this problem is to extend the current STTD system to MIMO configurations. In such a system, the compatibility with the current STTD system needs to be remained in order to use current STTD system for lower data rate transmission, such as voice services, while the system capacity is improved due to 15 the use of MIMO configurations.

Disclosure of Invention

The invention provides a transmitter for multiple input/multiple output 20 (MIMO) wireless communications systems. The invention is compatible with space time transmit diversity (STTD), which is widely adopted in 3G wireless communication systems, such as W-CDMA systems for the 3GPP standard, and CDMA2000 systems for the 3GPP2 standard.

25 The invention applies adaptive modulation and coding (AMC) to each sub-group of the antenna systems to match different channel conditions with required service performance and reach the maximal system capacities. More specifically,

this invention is suitable for high data rate transmission for MIMO systems, while remains the compatibility of the existing STTD schemes. The invention can be used for high data rate transmission, as well as for lower rate transmissions such as voice services, to increase the total number of the active users within one cell.

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Brief Description of the Drawings

Figure 1 is a block diagram for a transmitter in a multiple-input/multiple-output wireless communications system according to the invention.

10

Best Mode for Carrying Out the Invention

Figure 1 shows a transmitter 100 for a multiple-input/multiple-output (MIMO) wireless communications system according to the invention. The 15 transmitter 100 includes a demultiplexer 110 coupled to multiple (M) adaptive modulation and coding (AMC) blocks 120. The output of each AMC block is coupled to a space-time transmit diversity (STTD) encoder 130s. The outputs of the STTD encoders are coupled to N antennas 140, where each encoder is coupled to two antennas.

20

The system 100 also includes a rate selector 150 receiving channel conditions 160 from receivers, not shown. The channel conditions can include the received signal-to-noise-ratio (SNR) for each transmit channel. The channel conditions 160 can be updated periodically, or as needed.

25

During operation of the system 100, a stream of data symbols X_{101} is first demultiplexed 110 into M sub-streams 111, where M is half the total number N antennas 140. The M sub-streams are encoded by the M AMCs 120 at M data rates.

5 The M data rates are determined by the channel condition feedbacks 160 from the receivers. Accordingly, each AMCs encodes the sub-stream at a maximum data rate to achieve a predetermined service performance for the associated channel. Essentially, the service performance is a measure of the error rate, e.g., bit error rate (BER), frame error rate (FER), or SNR.

10

The AMCs 120 use a predefined combinations of modulations, e.g., QPSK, 8-PSK, 16-QAM, etc, and channel codings, such as convolutional coding and turbo coding with various coding rates, which define the information rates or capacity for each sub-stream. Here, a better channel condition means a higher data rate is 15 achievable with a predetermined service performance under such a channel condition.

20 For each sub-stream 111, the corresponding AMC block 120 outputs the information symbols X_{i1} and X_{i2} , for $i = 1, 2, \dots, M$, which are feed to the STTD encoder block 130, as shown in Fig.1. The STTD 130 encodes the input information symbols and the outputs are given by

$$\begin{bmatrix} X_{i2} & X_{i1} \\ -X_{i1}^* & X_{i2}^* \end{bmatrix}, \quad (1)$$

25 where $*$ is the complex conjugate. Each row of the STTD output matrix in Equation (1) represents the output to a specific transmit antenna 140. There are two

transmit antennas for each sub-stream 111, and therefore, there are total $N = 2M$ antennas 140.

In order to adaptively allocate different data rates for each sub-stream 111, it 5 is necessary for the receiver to perform channel or SNR estimations for the received signal from each transmit antenna, and report this back to the transmitter as the channel condition 160.

The feedback information can be encoded and modulated for transmission in 0 order to reduce errors in the feedback information. The channel condition feedbacks can be updated periodically from the receivers. In general, higher update frequency is favorable in order to follow the channel condition closely, which achieves higher system capacity. In order to keep the feedback information amount a reasonable size, the number of modulation and channel coding combinations is as 15 small as possible.

This invention is not only limited to the high data rate transmission, but can also be effectively deployed for lower rate transmissions such as voice services, which will increase the total number of the active users within one cell.

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It is to be understood that various other adaptations and modifications may be made within the spirit and scope of the invention. Therefore, it is the object of the appended claims to cover all such variations and modifications as come within the true spirit and scope of the invention.

25

CLAIMS

1. A method for transmitting a stream of data symbols in a multiple-input/multiple-output wireless communications system including M pairs of transmitting antennas, comprising:
 - 5 demultiplexing the stream of data symbols into M sub-streams;
 - adaptively modulating and coding each sub-stream to a maximum data rate while achieving a predetermine performance on an associated channel used to transmit the sub-stream; and
 - 0 space-time transmit diversity encoding each coded sub-stream into two output streams, one output stream for each antenna.
2. The method of claim 1 further comprising:
 - 5 feeding back, from a receiver, channel conditions of the associated channel for each antenna; and
 - 10 selecting the maximum data rate based on the channel conditions.
- 20 3. The method of claim 2 wherein the channel conditions measure a signal to noise ratio.
4. The method of claim 2 wherein the channel conditions measure an error rate.
- 25 5. The method of claim 2 wherein the channel conditions are updated periodically.

6. A transmitter for transmitting a stream of data symbols in a multiple-input/multiple-output wireless communications system including M pairs of transmitting antennas, comprising:

- a demultiplexer generating M sub-streams from the stream of data;
- 5 an adaptive modulation coder coding each sub-stream to a maximum data rate while achieving a predetermined performance on an associated channel used to transmit the sub-stream;
- a space-time transmit diversity encoder encoding each sub-stream into two output streams; and
- 10 an antenna for each output stream.

7. The transmitter of claim 6 further comprising:

- a receiver feeding back channel conditions of the associated channels; and
- 15 a rate selector signaling rate information to the adaptive modulation coders based on the channel conditions.

8. The transmitter of claim 7 wherein the receiver further comprises:
means for measuring a signal to noise ratio.

20 9. The transmitter of claim 7 wherein the receiver further comprises:
means for measuring an error rate.

10. A system for transmitting a stream of data symbols in a multiple-input/multiple-output wireless communications system including M pairs of transmitting antennas, comprising:

- a demultiplexer configured to demultiplex the stream of data symbols into M sub-streams;

means for adaptively modulating and coding each sub-stream to a maximum data rate while achieving a predetermine performance on an associated channel used to transmit the sub-stream;

means for space-time transmit diversity encoding each coded sub-stream

5 into two output streams, one output stream for each antenna.

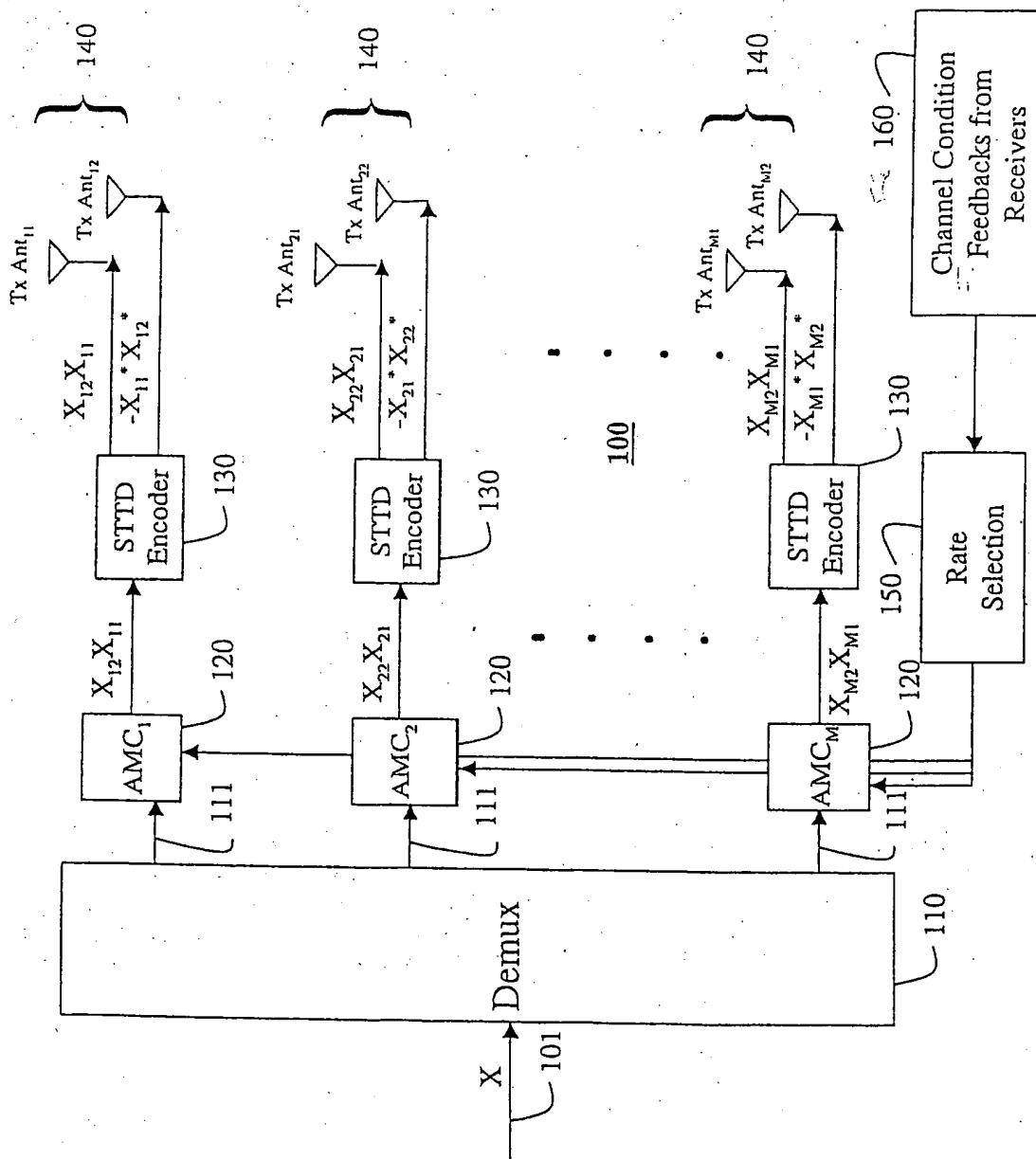


Fig. 1